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7  
8 **BEFORE THE**  
**BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING**  
9 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

10 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. *2012-83*

11 **ANN ELISABETH BRUUS, AKA ANN**  
12 **ELISABETH LEDBETTER**  
13 **513 Airel Avenue**  
**Foley, AL 36535**  
14 **Registered Nurse License No. 582649**

**A C C U S A T I O N**

15 Respondent.

16 Complainant alleges:

17 **PARTIES**

18 1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN ("Complainant") brings this Accusation solely in her  
19 official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of  
20 Consumer Affairs.

21 2. On or about June 29, 2001, the Board of Registered Nursing issued Registered Nurse  
22 License Number 582649 to Ann Elisabeth Bruus, aka Ann Elisabeth Ledbetter ("Respondent").  
23 The Registered Nurse License expired on January 31, 2005, and has not been renewed.

24 **JURISDICTION**

25 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Registered Nursing ("Board"),  
26 Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section  
27 references are to the Business and Professions Code ("Code") unless otherwise indicated.

4. Section 2750 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensee, including a licensee holding a temporary or an inactive license, for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with Code section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act.

## STATUTORY PROVISIONS

5. Section 118, subdivision (b) of the Code provides, in pertinent part:

“(b) The suspension, expiration, or forfeiture by operation of law of a license issued by a board in the department, or its suspension, forfeiture, or cancellation by order of the board or by order of a court of law, or its surrender without the written consent of the board, shall not, during any period in which it may be renewed, restored, reissued, or reinstated, deprive the board of its authority to institute or continue a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee upon any ground provided by law or to enter an order suspending or revoking the license or otherwise taking disciplinary action against the licensee on any such ground.”

6. Section 2764 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee or to render a decision imposing discipline on the license.

7. Section 2761 of the Code provides, in pertinent part:

"The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse or deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following:

(a) Unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(4) Denial of licensure, revocation, suspension, restriction, or any other disciplinary action against a health care professional license or certificate by another state or territory of the United States, by any other government agency, or by another California health care professional licensing board. A certified copy of the decision or judgment shall be conclusive evidence of that action ...”

## COST RECOVERY

8. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licensee found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

### FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

**(Disciplinary Action by the Alabama Board of Nursing)**

9. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 2761, subdivision

1 (a)(4), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct in that Respondent's registered nurse license was  
2 disciplined by the Alabama Board of Nursing ("Alabama Board").

3 10. On or about July 13, 2007, pursuant to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law  
4 and Order issued by the Alabama Board, in the disciplinary action entitled *In the Matter of: Lee v.*  
5 *Bruus, License No. 1-065060*, ABN Case No. 2007-0468, the Alabama Board revoked  
6 Respondent's registered nurse license. The basis for the Order is as follows:

7 a. On or about September 6, 2006, after admitting chemical dependency issues,  
8 Respondent entered into an agreement with the Alabama Board to participate in the Voluntary  
9 Disciplinary Alternative Program.

10 b. On or about November 17, 2006, after Respondent failed to submit records of  
11 treatment, failed to submit to random drug screening, and failed to submit monitoring reports,  
12 Respondent entered into a second agreement with the Alabama Board to participate in the  
13 Voluntary Disciplinary Alternative Program.

14 c. After entering into a second agreement with the Alabama Board, Respondent  
15 committed the following acts in violation of the agreement:

16 i. Respondent failed to enroll in a substance abuse aftercare program.

17 ii. Respondent failed to submit her January 10, 2007 report to the Board showing  
18 that she was participating in individual counseling.

19 iii. Respondent failed to submit to the Alabama Board, verification sheets for the  
20 months of December 2006, January 2007, and February 2007, showing that she  
21 was attending three 12-Step meetings each week.

22 iv. Respondent failed to submit written self-reports to the Alabama Board for the  
23 months of December 2006, January 2007, and February 2007.

24 v. On November 28, 2006, Respondent submitted to a random drug screen which  
25 was positive for Norpropoxyphene. Respondent did not provide a valid  
26 prescription for this medication.

- 1 vi. On January 8, 2007, Respondent submitted to a random drug screen, which  
2 tested positive for hydrocodone. Respondent did not provide a valid  
3 prescription for this medication.
- 4 vii. Respondent failed to provide samples for random drug screens ordered to be  
5 collected on November 27, 2006, November 30, 2006, December 6, 2006,  
6 December 27, 2006, January 4, 2007, January 10, 2007, and February 6, 2007.

7 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

8 **(Unprofessional Conduct)**

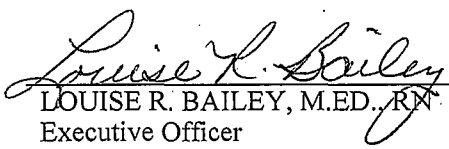
9 11. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 2761, subdivision  
10 (a), in that Respondent committed acts of unprofessional conduct. The conduct is more  
11 particularly described in paragraphs 9 and 10, subparagraphs (a) through (c)(i-vii), inclusive,  
12 above, and herein incorporated by reference.

13 **PRAAYER**

14 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,  
15 and that following the hearing, the Board of Registered Nursing issue a decision:

- 16 1. Revoking or suspending Registered Nurse License Number 582649, issued to Ann  
17 Elisabeth Bruus, aka Ann Elisabeth Ledbetter;
- 18 2. Ordering Ann Elisabeth Bruus, aka Ann Elisabeth Ledbetter to pay the Board of  
19 Registered Nursing the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case,  
20 pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3;
- 21 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

22 DATED: August 9, 2011

23   
24 LOUISE R. BAILEY, M.ED., RN  
25 Executive Officer  
26 Board of Registered Nursing  
27 Department of Consumer Affairs  
28 State of California  
Complainant

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